(d)

Calender Year	No. of families	Adults	Children	Total
2002	39	71	13	84
2003	8	11	2	13
2004	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

Upgradation of crisis management centres

3028. SHRI R.P. GOENKA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the new Integrated Operation Centre for the country's crisis management has been upgraded with state-of-the-art technology equipment and communication systems to avoid wastage of crucial time in crisis mangement;

(b) if so, the details thereof, including results of mock drills carried out, if any one networks extending to the State and district control rooms; and

(c) the details of co-ordination system established to provide quick relief to the affected people without the need to go back to various Ministers to seek sanctions, etc.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Control Room of the Ministry of Home Affairs has been upgraded into an Integrated Operations Centre (IOC). The IOC is equipped with video-conferencing, map displays and presentation facilities and communication channels with multiple network resources using satellite and terrestrial links for failsafe connectivity with State and District Operations Centres. The State Govts. and the Union Territory Administrations have been advised to set up multi-hazard resistant Operation Centres at State and District levels. Trials have been conducted by establishing communications between the National Operations Centre and some of the State Operations Centres.

(c) Those Central Ministries/Departments, which are normally required to play a significant role in Disaster Management, have been advised to prepare Emergency/Disaster Support Functions Plans with prior approval of the competent authorities to enable them to mobilize necessary resources

for disaster response. Most of these Ministries/Departments have already developed such plans. The State Govts. and the Union Territory Administrations have also advised to enter into pre-centracts or pre-agreements with suppliers for various relief supplies to avoid loss of time in the procurement of these items in the event of a disaster.

Fire incidents in Delhi

3029. SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of incidents of huge market place fires like the recent one in Ramakrishna Puram are occurring in the NCT of Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what are the steps being taken by Government to avoid such accidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. 61 incidents of fire in shops in Delhi were reported during the period from 1st April, 2004 to 31st March, 2005. Out of these, seven incidents were of medium intensity while 54 incidents were of minor nature.

(c) In so far as high rise buildings are concerned, necessary steps to enforce fire security as provided for under the Fire Prevention and fire Safety Act and Rules framed thereunder are being taken by Delhi Fire Service. In case of low rise mercantile buildings of height below 15 meters, which are not covered under the Delhi Free Prevention laws and the Delhi Buildings Bye laws, 1983, fire fighting vehicles are kept on full alert to respond to contingencies at short notice.

Dialogue with Nepal

†3030. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indo-Nepal dialogue at Home Secretary level was held recently;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.